

Dear Cardinal,

We are pleased to announce that after a thoughtful and thorough search, which included input from students, faculty, and staff, Otterbein has chosen Slingshot as our new campus store partner. Starting July 16, Slingshot will stock new Cardinal gear at a variety of price points and implement a new, convenient, cost-saving textbook process for Otterbein students. This new textbook process will impact how you get your course materials for Fall Semester 2025.

While conducting our search for a new campus bookstore partner, we prioritized:

- Affordability for students.
- Availability of materials for the first day of class.
- Flexibility and choice for students and instructors to choose between digital and print formats.
- Students' ability to use Financial Aid to cover the cost of their course materials.
- Strong coordination and linkage with our Learning Management System.
- Ability to coordinate with our Library resources, Academic Support Services, and the Office of Disability Services.
- A new vision for the on-campus and e-commerce stores.

Slingshot's *Choice Program* strives to manage the cost of course materials for students while providing them with their choice of media, including the option to buy or rent materials that are new, used, printed, or in a digital format.

As of the 2025 Fall Semester, all Otterbein students already have been automatically enrolled with "rental" set as the default preference, which is the most affordable choice. Students will be provided with the most affordable rental option available, whether that is digital or print, unless the course instructor indicates a required format.

You will have until Aug. 1, 2025, to either change your media preference (new, used, purchase, rental, digital, print, etc.) or to opt out of Slingshot's auto-fulfillment program. If you opt out of the automatic fulfillment program, you can still get your materials from any retailer, including Slingshot.

Slingshot will have course materials available for pick-up in the Campus Store on the first floor of the Campus Center before the first day of class. Digital course materials will be available via the Slingshot student portal four days before the start of class.

The charges for course materials will automatically be added to your student account on Aug. 20, the first day of class. Placing these charges on your student account enables you to utilize any available Financial Aid to help cover the cost of course materials. Students enrolled in the payment plan will also have their course material costs divided amongst their payments.

Otterbein University believes your course materials should be affordable and ready when you need them. We are excited to work alongside Slingshot to deliver that experience for you. Learn more by reviewing an FAQ and login to your student portal at www.otterbein.edu/bookstore.

Have a safe summer, and we look forward to seeing you at the new campus store this fall.



Jeff Nutter

Chief Financial Officer, Vice President for Business Affairs

Important Dates

June 2025

- Otterbein's Slingshot student portal is open! Otterbein students can log into the portal with their credentials to:
 - o Review their Fall 2025 course materials.
 - o Make decisions on their media preferences for those materials.
 - o Make decisions to stay enrolled in automatic fulfillment or opt-out of the program.

7.1.25

- University invoices for Fall 2025 are sent to students.
- Textbook and course material charges for Fall 2025 are **not** included in this invoice.
- Monthly payment plan enrollment opens.

7.21.25

New Slingshot campus store opens!

8.1.25

- Tuition is due Aug. 1, 2025, unless you have enrolled into a monthly payment plan through ePay. Payment plans must be set up by Aug. 1, as well.
- Submit \$275 deposit to enroll in monthly payment plan. \$245 applies towards your semester tuition charge while the remaining \$30 applies toward payment plan set-up fees.
- This is also the deadline for Otterbein students to login to their Slingshot student portal account and make any changes in their status and media preferences and ensure their fulfillment of choice.

8.20.25

- **First Day of Classes!**
- Textbook charges will appear on student accounts.
- Pick up your course materials in the Campus Store in the Campus Center.

8.15.25 or 8.30.25

- Dependent on the monthly payment plan that you may have enrolled in, your first installment will be due Aug. 15 or Aug. 30. Payment plans include all fees assessed to the student account including tuition, fees, books, housing, and meals.

8.27.25

- Last day to return any textbooks and course materials to Slingshot at 100% refund rate for any reason.

9.3.25

- Last day to return any textbooks and course materials to Slingshot at 100% refund rate for dropped courses.